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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/737,289	12/16/2003	James R. Forte-McRobbie	1014-046 (2002-0377)	6512
26652	7590	07/06/2007	EXAMINER	
AT&T CORP.			SINGH, RAMNANDAN P	
ROOM 2A207			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ONE AT&T WAY			2614	
BEDMINSTER, NJ 07921				
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			07/06/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	10/737,289	FORTE-MCROBBIE ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Ramnandan Singh	2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### **Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 December 2003.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                    2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

4)  Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date *Dec 16, 2003*.  
4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.  
5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application  
6)  Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Specification***

1. **Title of the Invention:** See 37 CFR 1.72(a) and MPEP § 606. The title of the invention should be placed at the top of the first page of the specification unless the title is provided in an application data sheet. The title of the invention should be brief but technically accurate and descriptive, preferably from two to seven words may not contain more than 500 characters.
2. The title of the invention is objected to because it is improper to use acronyms in the title. The suggested title is as follows:  
**VOICE-OVER-IP HYBRID DIGITAL LOOP CARRIER.**

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koo [US 20010032270 A1] in view of MeLampy et al [US 6,697,475 B1].

Regarding claim 19, Koo teaches a system comprising: means for communicatively coupling an IP network to a remote non-IP network [Figs. 1-12; Para: 0033-0070].

Koo does not teach expressly using a local VOIP channelized router.

MeLampy et al teach a VoIP channelized router (11) for call control and to convert IP packets to robbed bit signaling via [Fig. 1; col. 7, line 64 to col. 8, line 47].

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of MeLampy et al with Koo so that the robbed bit signaling may be buried in the voice data.

Claim 20 is essentially similar to claim 19 except for a machine readable medium storing instructions for activities. McLampy et al teach using a computer readable medium for storing instructions [col. 10, lines 1-27].

5. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koo [US 20010032270 A1] in view of kalmanek et al [US 6,324,279 B1] and further in view of McLampy et al [US 6,697,475 B1].

Regarding claim 1, Koo teaches a method, comprising: for a call between a local IP network (101) and a remote non-IP network (180) [Figs. 1-12; Para: 0033-0070].

Although the pulse code modulation (PCM) format is typically used for transmission over telephone networks (not discussed for brevity) [Para: 0033], Koo does not teach this signal expressly.

Kalmanek et al teach using the PCM format for transmission over the telephone network (135), and translating between the IP packets and the TDM trunk [Fig. 1; col. 7, lines 52-65; Fig. 7; col. 50, lines 6-13; col. 51, lines 6-18 ].

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Kalmanek et al with Koo in order to use the pulse code modulation (PCM) format for transmission over the telephone network to facilitate industry practice.

However, the combination Koo and Kalmanek et al teaches providing PCM signaling to TDM switch, it does not teach using converting IP packets to PCM robbed bit signaling.

MeLampy et al teach converting IP packets to PCM robbed bit signaling via a VoIP channelized router (11) for call control [Fig. 1; col. 7, line 64 to col. 8, line 47].

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of MeLampy et al with Kalmanek et al and Koo so that the robbed bit signaling may be buried in the voice data.

Regarding claim 2, MeLampy et al further teach the method, comprising: converting between IP packets and GR303 call reference values via the VoIP channelized router [ col. 8, lines 4-60].

Regarding claim 3, Koo further teaches the method, comprising: detecting an off-hook condition of a telephone on the local IP network [Figs. 4, 11; Para: 0014-0015].

Regarding claim 4, Koo further teaches the method, comprising: receiving, at the VoIP channelized router, an invite message related to an off hook condition of an IP telephone [Para: 0007].

Regarding claim 5, Koo further teaches the method, comprising: providing a dial tone to a user of the local IP network [Figs. 1-2; Para: 0007].

0033-0036].

Regarding claim 6, the combination of Koo, Kalmanek et al and MeLampy et al further teaches the method, comprising: converting an invite message, responsive to an off-hook condition, to a B bit toggle conforming to PCM signaling at the VoIP channelized router; and forwarding the B bit toggle to the TDM switch, wherein the robbed bit signaling imply signaling via A and B bits, which can be buried in voice data, as discussed above [MeLampy et al; Figs. 1-9, col. 7, line 64 to col. 10, line 27].

Claims 7-18 are variations of the above claims and hence are rejected for the reasons stated above.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramnandan Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7529. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (8:00-5:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ramnandan Singh  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2614

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Singh" followed by a stylized surname.